



WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAR. 9, 1904.

APPARENTLY much time and money is being wasted in the Smoot case now before the Senate committee. The only substantial inquiry before the Senate in this case is whether the ecclesiastical system of the Mormons is such that a strict member of the church cannot be a loyal citizen to the United States. If this be answered in the negative by the testimony of Mormon witnesses, then Elder Smoot would have no right to a seat in the Senate. But what may be his religious beliefs apart from his acts and practices has nothing to do with the case. He may religiously believe that the polygamous practices of the Patriarchs were in conformity with the doctrines of the Old Testament, but so long as he does not practice polygamy himself he cannot be expelled from the Senate for an abstract opinion. The only question is a political one. Can a Mormon be a good citizen?

ACCORDING to a decision by Judge Kimball of the Washington Police Court, yesterday, a man who is seen drunk on the streets twice in 30 days is liable to a fine of not less than \$40 or imprisonment in the workhouse for a term not exceeding six months. The penalty will doubtless cause some to beware and not tarry too long with the wine. There have been many expedients resorted to by kings and magistrates to minimize drunkenness. All have, in a measure, proven to be failures. The Emperor Otho decreed that people found drunk in the streets of Rome should be taken to the market place and tossed up in blankets before large concourses of their fellow-citizens. This was for a time carried out, but the officers of the law soon found they were subjected to considerable labor in inflicting the punishment and the custom finally fell into disuse.

THE recent explosion of guns on American war vessels has stirred up the Navy Department and there is much comment on the order issued since the Iowa gun explosion, reducing the powder charges of all guns in the navy. By probing deeply the board investigating the matter will find, according to naval experts, that the Iowa gun explosion was due to the gun being made from imperfect material and condemned by three boards of naval officers, but approved by higher authority!

It is published that the Japanese will make no important land advance until they have massed one hundred thousand troops at Ping-Yang. That is rational and credible. But it was ten days ago that dispatches from the far East stated that "two hundred thousand Japanese troops invade Manchuria and Siberia!" The latter news is less sensational than the former, but it has the advantage of being more accurate, and accuracy is a desirable quality, even in twentieth century war news.

NOTICE has been given of the consolidation of the Warren Sentinel and the Warren Register, published at Front Royal, the Register suspending publication and turning over to the Sentinel its good will and business. The cost of publishing a newspaper now has become so great that but few towns in Virginia, or elsewhere, in fact, can support more than one. Richmond now has but two papers and Washington with nearly a third of a million people really supports but two.

"THE KING is dead, long live the King," is as true now as ever. Yesterday the President removed several Hanna postmasters in Ohio and put Foraker men in their places. Had Hanna lived this would not have been.

From Washington.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

Washington, March 9.

The postal frauds received their first airing in the Supreme Court today, when arguments were heard in the case of George W. Beavers, late chief of the salary and allowance division, against William Henkel, U. S. marshal, which came to the Supreme Court on appeal from the U. S. Circuit Court for the southern district of New York. Assistant Attorney General Milton D. Purdy argued on behalf of the government. The defendant was represented by B. T. Morgan, Max D. Steier and Wm. M. Seabury. The contents of Beavers in the U. S. Supreme Court are that the court below erred in denying the writ, because the indictment upon which his removal was based was not properly admitted in proof of probable cause; because there was not sufficient evidence of probable cause; that the commissioner who tried the case had no right to require bail of Beavers; and that Beavers was deprived of liberty without due process of law. The government's contention is that the judge who made the order for the removal of Beavers had jurisdiction to make it and that the question of whether upon the merits he ought to have made it is one which can not be reviewed by means of the writ of habeas corpus. The indictment sufficiently sets forth the charge and the allegations sufficiently set forth the source of complainant's information. When the commissioner became satisfied of the identity of the defendant

and that a valid indictment had been found against him it was the commissioner's duty to require bond and in default to commit him. A prima facie case of probable cause was established and the finding was not subject to review on a writ of habeas corpus.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert Armstrong appeared this morning before the Senate committee on interstate commerce and urged the extension of the Dingley tariff laws to the Panama canal strip. "Even the tariff laws of Panama will become inoperative as soon as the strip passes into our possession," said Mr. Armstrong, "and unless we extend our tariff statutes over the ground it will be thrown open to free trade to the world."

The entire Michigan delegation in Congress called at the White House this morning to urge the President to accept the invitation to attend the 50th anniversary celebration of the birth of the republican party at Jackson, Michigan, July 6. The President expressed his regret that he would have to decline.

French scientists have succeeded in making a smokeless fuel of coal dust and oil. U. S. Consul Ridgely reporting on the discovery from Nantes, says that the military authorities are greatly elated over the possibilities opened up for use during time of war. It means, they say, smokeless men-of-war, cruisers and torpedo boats.

Mrs. Florence Maybrick's presence in this country, it is said, she has arrived, has not been reported to the officials of the Government. But the mere fact that she does not know of her arrival is no sign that she did not come into port yesterday on the Kaiser Wilhelm II, for they are not looking for her and if they knew of her prospective coming would make no effort to stop her. "Mrs. Maybrick is an American citizen," said Commissioner of Immigration Sargent, this morning, "and she has nothing to fear from the immigration authorities. If we were disposed to be harsh, we might suppose, bar her out of the country on the ground that she is an ex-convict, but I think she has suffered enough and do not intend to cause her to endure any more humiliation. As far as we know, however, she has not arrived in this country."

During the consideration of the army bill in the Senate today, Mr. Bacon denounced the purpose of the government to erect a statue of Frederick the Great, presented by the German emperor, at the national capital. He thought the German emperor's action ill advised and the acceptance of the gift by the President as hasty, and declared that such a statue was not in accord with the wishes of the people of the United States.

The President today sent to the Senate the following nominations: To be envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary John Barret, of Oregon, to Panama; Arthur M. Beaupre, of Illinois, to the Argentine Republic; William W. Russell of the District of Columbia, to Colombia. To be a member of the Mississippi river commission, Henry B. Richardson, of Louisiana.

Alexander F. Moran, formerly a prominent shoe merchant of this city, of late a clerk, committed suicide this afternoon by shooting himself through the head with a revolver.

The Senate passed a bill yesterday to refer to the court of claims for final adjudication the claim of Col. John S. Mosby for the value of 7,000 pounds of tobacco, which were taken by government agents July 27, 1865. Senator Martin reported the bill favorably from the committee on claims.

The Gazette's correspondent yesterday passed by the Senate committee room where the Smoot investigation is being held just as an old newspaper man was coming out, and inquired what was going on in there. The latter replied that a number of "tabbies" were in there all looking with admiration upon Apostle Smoot, the man with seven wives and forty-two children, and that he believed if Smoot asked them if they would marry him they would all say "yes."

When the seventh day's hearing in the Smoot investigation began this morning, President Smith, of the Mormon church, who was absent yesterday, occupied his usual seat among the other witnesses from Utah. He was at once called to the stand by Attorney Taylor, when a series of questions were propounded to him concerning certain prominent members of the Mormon Church and their polygamous practices.

Mr. Rixey has introduced a bill for the relief of John A. Fairfax.

Congressman Swanson has made the announcement in a letter to friends of his determination to make the race for governor at the next election. He says that he has received assurances of support from all sections of the State, and from those who are friendly to him at the last election, which justifies him in being sanguine of success in the race.

Fifty-Eighth Congress.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 9.

SENATE.

The Senate today passed the army appropriation bill, without material modification.

HOUSE.

In the House today Rev. J. J. Dolliver, a Methodist minister and the father of Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, delivered the opening prayer.

William Bourke Cockran, elected to succeed Mayor McClellan, of New York city, was sworn in by Speaker Cannon.

He was received with democratic applause.

After the transaction of some minor business the "postoffice report" was given consideration.

Mr. Overstreet asked unanimous consent that the consideration of the postoffice investigation resolution go over until Monday. He also said that he favored a longer debate than three hours at that time.

Mr. Hay objected. He said that there was no necessity to postpone action.

Mr. Overstreet then moved that the order making the postoffice resolution the special order of today go over until Monday.

The reasons assigned were that the general debate on the postoffice appropriation bill would give ample time for all members to be heard on the report.

General Grosvenor asked whether he would call up the postoffice appropriation bill immediately.

"I want to be heard on this thing today," declared General Grosvenor.

Mr. Overstreet said that there was such a division of opinion among members as to what action should be taken on the motion that would be before the House at the termination of the debate that he believed that it was absolutely necessary to postpone final action so that the members could investigate the matter before voting.

An alliance between William J. Bryan and William R. Hearst, with a view of dictating the democratic presidential nomination is said to be a certainty. In fact, it is asserted by a man very close to Mr. Hearst himself, that the present arrangement is that Mr. Bryan will present Mr. Hearst's name at the St. Louis convention.

News of the Day.

Secretary Taft declares Sixto Lopez cannot return to the Philippines under any pretext until he takes the oath of allegiance.

The House committee on reform in the civil service yesterday authorized a favorable report on the resolution introduced by Representative Hay, of Virginia, for a record of each suspension of the civil service law and rules since its operation, and the names of persons taken into government service through such suspension.

Four witnesses were heard yesterday by the Senate committee on privileges and elections, which is trying the right of Reed Smoot to retain his seat as a Senator from Utah. The quartette included Francis M. Lyman, a member of the first presidency of the Mormon Church and the prospective successor of Joseph F. Smith, president of the church. Lyman's testimony was scarcely less sensational than his chief's, containing, as it did, frank avowals of his disobedience of the law prohibiting polygamy and of his intent to continue in such disobedience. He threw an interesting light on the doctrine of the church by declaring that the will of the people was superior to the divine revelation granted to apostles in the conduct of church affairs.

Virginia Legislature.

A scramble was made by members in both houses yesterday to discharge the committees from consideration of pet bills and get them before the House. Many succeeded, but many were flatly turned down.

It is said that there are bills enough before the committees to give the legislature two months' steady work, but many of them will never be reported.

SENATE.

The Senate passed the bill to appropriate \$25,000 for the erection of an electric plant to light and heat the governor's mansion and other buildings.

The general appropriation bill was then taken up and considered at length, strenuous objection being made by Chairman Wickham, of the finance committee, to the increase of salaries recommended and approved in the House.

The bill to amend the law in regard to State depositions, which was amended by the Senate so as to allow the governor and treasurer to designate any bank giving the required bond, which amendment was rejected by the House, was taken up. The Senate refused to recede from its amendment, and a conference committee was asked for.

The Senate held an afternoon session, and agreed to amendments to the appropriation bill, reducing the salaries of second auditor, treasurer and register of the land office to the amounts now paid. The House increased all these salaries.

The Senate committee on roads killed, by postponing it indefinitely, the bill requiring railroads to fence their tracks.

The Senate concurred in the House amendments to the Senate bill requiring employers of large bodies of laborers to have them inspected periodically by health officers.

The Senate also concurred in the House amendment to the Senate bill making it a misdemeanor to desert a wife or minor children and prescribing punishment therefor.

HOUSE.

A fight occurred in the House over the appropriation of \$165,000 to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and \$55,000 to the Female Normal School, passed by the Senate. The House bill, as reported from the finance committee, cut these amounts nearly in half, and Mr. Boaz, chairman of the committee, used copious figures to show that the State treasury would not stand the strain.

But its advocates met figures with other figures, and there was much talk of juggling with these convenient helps to argument. One speaker declared that the watchdog of the treasury never even barked whenever there was an appropriation up for the University of Virginia.

Mr. Heermaus, republican, of Montgomery, the county in which the Virginia Polytechnic Institute is located, made a speech for the appropriation and was cheered again and again by the House. The bills went through by a big majority. These bills were passed by the Senate several days ago, and only the signature of the governor is now necessary to make them law.

The Edmondson road bill, which affects the whole State, passed the House as amended by the Senate, the principal change being to allow county supervisors, instead of circuit judges, to name road overseers.

The bill to authorize the commissioners of the revenue to list certain agricultural and mineral products in the State was defeated.

It was stated in the House yesterday that the record in the contested election case of Johnson and Etheridge against Parker and Owens, from Norfolk county, has not yet been considered by the committee. The record cost about \$500, but as the session ends in four days the matter will hardly be put to practical use.

RACE WAR IN OHIO.

A race war is in progress at Springfield, Ohio, as the result of the lynching of the negro Dixon Monday night for the murder of Policeman Collis. Part of the negro settlement, on the levee, was fired at midnight by a mob of 2,000 white men. It is still burning, and the entire settlement will probably be wiped out.

Gov. Herrick, in response to calls from the sheriff and mayor, has ordered six companies of soldiers to the city. The troops are badly needed as it is entirely probable that the negroes will make good their threat to fire the business districts of the city and dynamite the jail and other county buildings.

Members of the mob openly declare that when their work in the eastern levee district is completed they will transfer their efforts to that portion west of the Big Four station and the Arcade Hotel.

Among the places in the west levee district are a number that are resorts for the colored people and in one of which Dixon shot Collis. The arrival of the out-of-town militia alone can save these joints.

Apparently the negroes all over the city are becoming intimidated, and their boats made in the earlier part of the evening are no longer heard.

Many of the negroes of Springfield were surly last night, and it was realized that only a spark was needed to set off the magazine of a race war.

Virginia News.

The death of Mrs. Rebecca Mayo occurred at Newbern, yesterday. She was 90 years old, and was the widow of Stephen Mayo, who fought in the revolutionary war.

William Hudson, who has been connected with the Charlottesville woolen mills for more than thirty years, died Monday night at his home just east of the city suburbs, at the age of sixty-five years.

Governor Montague yesterday announced the following appointments: Colonel John S. Harwood, Richmond, chief of staff vice, Colonel George C. Cabell, jr., resigned. E. C. Carrington, of Danville, member of staff with rank of colonel, to succeed Colonel Harwood.

Fire Monday night destroyed the large frame depot of the Piedmont, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railway in Fredericksburg. The fire broke out about 9:30 o'clock, and its origin is unknown. It was impossible to save the building, but the fire was prevented from spreading. The loss was \$10,000.

Messrs. Davis and Davis, Washington patent attorneys, report the grant this week to citizens of this State of the following patents: Thomas C. Churchill, of Potomac, for a variable speed transmission gearing; Reginald A. Fessenden, of Fortress Monroe, for a signaling by electro-magnetic waves (2 patents); James E. Gibbs, of Bridgewater, for a spring motor; Benjamin S. Scott, of Ewell, for a fish hook; Archer G. Jones, of Richmond, for a twin envelope.

A Pittsburg domestic affair had its exposure in the Police Court in Richmond yesterday. Charles F. Arrett, a wealthy Pittsburg man, went to the Jefferson Hotel Monday night at midnight with a detective from Washington and two city policemen and arrested Arthur F. Smith, of Chicago, and Mrs. Helena W. Arrett, his wife, who had been registered there for some days as man and wife. Mr. Arrett offered no violence to Mr. Smith, his only purpose, apparently, being to secure evidence for divorce. He is said to have offered his wife \$20,000 and a divorce. Mrs. Arrett, who is stylish and handsome, dressed in costly furs, was cool and defiant and demanded \$100,000. The officers are of the opinion that Arrett will get a divorce without cost.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Lord Augustus Loftus, the aged British diplomat and statesman, is dead.

The Elder statesman will meet in Tokio tomorrow to discuss financial ways and means for the prosecution of the war.

It is announced that the Prince and Princess Arisugawa will represent the Mikado of Japan at the St. Louis exposition.

An Italian workman today destroyed a bridge over the river Begas in Hungary, with dynamite. The explosive blew a pillar of the structure from its foundations and the superstructure fell into the river. A German engineer named Linebach and two others were killed and four persons seriously injured.

A great outburst of indignation has been aroused in Berlin by a ministerial decree which has been issued ordering officers and soldiers to use their weapons ruthlessly when civilians affront their military honor. Soldiers who hesitate to kill or wound such offending civilians, are termed as meriting degradation and dismissal.

The Birmingham Post announces that an official telegram has been received in London, stating that correspondence is proceeding between Austria and Italy with a view of arranging for a joint occupation by the two countries of certain provinces in the Balkans to avert hostilities there. It is stated that France and England will cordially approve of this step, if it appears necessary.

Kleiner Journal of Berlin, in an article published today, says that a syndicate with a capital of \$1,000,000 has been formed in St. Louis, for the purpose of importing goods to that city for immoral purposes during the fair. Agents of the syndicate are scouring Europe for suitable victims, promising them remunerative and honest employment as the bait.

Official details have been received in Paris of the loss of the French steamship Cambodge, from Rangoon, India, Feb. 17th, for Europe, off the coast of Cochinchina. It is believed that 100 persons perished with the vessel. The steamer was wrecked during a terrific storm. A series of huge waves broke over her, and she finally sank in eight metres of water. Help was sent from Saigon.

It is announced that the Sultan has decided to order two cruisers from the Cramps of Philadelphia. The vessels will be of the latest improved type. A dispatch from Philadelphia says that Edwin S. Cramp, when told of the Constantinople report as to new warships for Turkey, said that he had no knowledge of his firm having received such a contract. He intimated, however, that negotiations to that end were pending.

S. E. Shirley, a Monaghan county magistrate, and formerly member of parliament from that district, while visiting London yesterday, met his death as the result of what is believed to have been foul play. Mr. Shirley returned to his hotel in Victoria street yesterday evening, minus his valuables, and seriously injured. He became unconscious and died without being able to give any explanation of his plight. Later inquiries indicate that Magistrate Shirley died from a sudden illness. His missing property has since been discovered.

COURT OF APPEALS.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad et al vs. the Commonwealth, argued and submitted.

Next cases to be called: Old Dominion Steamship Company vs. the Commonwealth; The American Surety Company of New York vs. the Commonwealth, being Nos. 3 and 4 on the corporation commission docket, and Nottingham Coal and Ice Company vs. Peas, No. 1 on the privileged docket.

Never Heard of God.

At Hagerstown, Md., yesterday, the State court heard the prosecution in the case of Charles and Frank Huntzperger, indicted for criminally assaulting their five-year-old niece, Lola Huntzperger, last October. The case fell through because the court decided the little girl and her twin brother, the chief witnesses, were not competent to testify. They questioned the children, but neither of them had ever heard of God or heaven, never went to Sunday-school, and had no conception of the nature of an oath. Dr. J. H. Wade, of Boonsboro, who attended the little girl after the alleged assault, testified she was in a serious condition.

The Market.

Georgetown, Mar. 9.—Wheat 95½-100.

Today's Telegraphic News.

From Richmond.

[Special Dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.] Richmond, March 9.—Mr. Ryan's bill reducing State taxes on real and personal property 5 cents from January 1, 1907, was passed by the House.

A resolution offered in the House extending the session till March 19 was passed by a bill to provide for an auditing committee was defeated.

The Senate adopted an amendment to the appropriation bill forbidding the payment of any money given State institutions to lobbyists appearing for the same.

The House is to hold three sessions today and all the week.

THE WAR IN THE FAR EAST.

London, March 9.—The Tokio correspondent of the Reuter Telegram Company wires that it is believed in the Japanese capital that there has been a decisive naval engagement in the vicinity of Vladivostok. The tidings are anxiously awaited. It is believed, he adds, that the Japanese would not have withdrawn their entire squadron from Vladivostok unless the location of the enemy had been discovered. There is a strong possibility that the Japanese squadron found the Russian ships in Possiet Bay, seventy-five miles southwest of Vladivostok, and gave them battle there.

London, March 9.—The Central News correspondent at Port Arthur wires that Admiral Marakoff, in charge of the Russian naval forces in the far East, arrived in Port Arthur today. The municipal council of the city presented him with an ikon, or sacred picture. Subsequently the principal Russian officers extended a reception to the Admiral aboard the cruiser Askold. The battleship Retvizan, which was damaged by Japanese torpedoes on February 9th, has, according to the correspondent, been successfully repaired and is now aloft. The Czaritch which was damaged at the same time as the Retvizan, has also been completely repaired, and refloated.

London, March 9.—No official confirmation has as yet been received of the Tokio dispatch to the Daily Telegraph this morning stating that it was reported in the Japanese capital that the Russian Vladivostok squadron had been destroyed or captured by Japanese vessels. The report is thought in many quarters to be but another of the vague rumors which have been so plentiful since the initiation of hostilities. There is a possibility, of course, that the report is well founded, but owing to its indefiniteness, but little credence is at present given to it.

Berlin March 9.—The Lokal Anzeiger today asserts that Russia has refused permission to America to send military attaches with the Russian forces in the field, while permission to continental powers is freely given. This, says the paper, is considered a grave affront, implying, as it does, that American officers are not fit to be trusted with Russian military secrets.

Washington, March 9.—Officials flatly deny the statement in the Anzeiger of Berlin that Russia has refused permission for the United States to have military attaches with the army. Ambassador McCormick cabled five days ago from St. Petersburg that the necessary permission had been granted.

Tokio, March 9.—Japanese warships yesterday evening bombarded the forts of Talianwan in Korea Bay. Later they proceeded to Port Arthur and bombarded the fortresses there.

Mob Law in Ohio.

Springfield, Ohio, March 9.—Police Sergeant Collis killed by Richard Dickerson, Mammie Corbin wounded by Dickerson, Dickerson lynched by a mob, five negro joints on the levee burned by a mob, and ten companies of soldiers patrolling the streets sum up the events thus far that have excited Springfield and attracted the attention of the country during the past 36 hours. It is said that more of the negro joints will be destroyed tonight by the mob, with its fire brands, in the seeming determination of the so-called purifying element to rid Springfield of the dives which people claim are responsible for such crimes as the Dickerson murder.

Springfield, Ohio, March 9.—"Look out tonight; the other dives will go the way of the levee," is the remark heard today. Of the 5,000 negroes here few are to be seen on the streets. Many have barricaded themselves in their homes and some have left the city temporarily. Last night stray negroes in the streets were chased by the mob of whites whose sole purpose seems to be to frighten, rather than to harm them. There is a total of 305 enlisted men and 35 officers on duty. Adjutant General Critchfield and his party returned to Columbus Wednesday morning, satisfied that the worst is over. A special grand jury will be called at once to investigate the outrages. This was the statement of Judge Mower this morning, when asked for his views on the riots. The streets are thronged with people, and crowds are pouring in the city from all directions. Every traction car is filled and the levee district is crowded with curious sightseers. The city building has been turned into an armory.

Damage by Floods.

Port Jervis, N. Y., March 9.—The big ice gorge broke here at midnight, after sending a huge wave over the Erie railroad tracks and into the business and residential part of the city, adding to the already big flood flowing through the principal streets. The iron railroad bridge connecting Port Jervis with Matamoras, Pa., is gone, leaving the latter town isolated and short of supplies. The iron highway bridge over Navesink river, connecting Port Jervis with Tri-State suburb was carried up stream on the ice. The damage here is estimated at \$300,000. Seven dwellings were demolished and many more were badly undermined or moved from their foundations. The streets and crossings are torn up and merchandise in stores on the first floors and basements has been ruined.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 9.—The Susquehanna river flood is at its height today. Three bridges were swept away this morning. At Rupert fifteen hundred people are homeless and without provisions.

On Catwassa Creek, a county and a Pennsylvania Railroad bridge were carried away, and the two sections of the city are now divided by the torrent that moved a steel bridge a quarter of a mile from its abutments. The big Bloomsburg bridge is undermined, two of its piers having been washed away. The Danville bridge threatens to go and to assure the safety of the half-million dollar structure, of the Pennsylvania

Railroad at Sunbury, the former has been oiled and made ready for the torch. The loss sustained by the sweeping away of the bridges is now estimated at \$4,000,000. Three miles above the city a great gorge has formed against a steel bridge of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which has bowed and threatens to go out with the current.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 9.—Backed up by unbroken ice gorges, which so far have defied all efforts to break them, the mighty flood of water on the Susquehanna is still rising and hourly works more damage as it sweeps along on its new bed. All records for floods were broken this morning when the dial showed that the water stood 30 feet 3 inches above low water mark. All towns and hamlets along the river for eighty miles are water soaked, and damaged by the torrent.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 9.—Three bridges have been swept away and 1,500 people are homeless and are fleeing to the mountains at Bloomsburg.

Schenectady, N. Y., March 9.—The condition of affairs along the river are beginning to assume alarming proportions, submerging cottages and compelling several families to leave their homes at Fort Hunter. Guests at the hotel were compelled to flee.

City Council.

A brief session of the City Council was held last night. The license and tax laws for the year commencing June 1, 1904, and ending May 31, 1905, were introduced and referred to the finance committee. The volume of business transacted was not large, and most of it was of a routine nature.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

Seven Aldermen were present. The business was disposed of without discussion.

Mr. Clark presented a petition of W. H. Cox for permission to make certain improvements to his property on the southeast corner of Cameron and Fayette streets; also a petition of the M. Schuler Beef Company for permission to erect two frame houses on the east side of Fayette street, near Cameron.

Mr. Clark said he hoped the prayers of the petitioners would be granted, as any one who had the nerve to build houses on Fayette street under existing conditions should be encouraged. The prayers of the petitioners were granted.

The Common Council subsequently returned the petitions, that board having refused to concur in the action of the Aldermen and referring the petitions to the committee on streets. Mr. Johnson, of the lower board, having entered the chamber to notify the board that the Common Council was ready to adjourn, said the action of the Aldermen had not been concurred in from the fact that a constitutional quorum for the transaction of such business was not present in the lower board. The Aldermen then receded from their action and concurred in that of the Common Council.

The action of the lower board on all the papers sent in was concurred in.

COMMON COUNCIL.

It was some time after 8 o'clock before President Paff called the Council to order, a bare quorum being present.

No committees reported.

Mr. Bryan presented a bill of \$498 for sanitary supplies.

Also the annual tax bill and license law for the next fiscal year.

The three measures were referred to the committee on finance.

The Auditor reported that the annual appropriation for salaries, cleaning streets and many other departments had been exhausted.

The Auditor also reported that several other departments had been supplied by special appropriation or out of the contingent fund.

Mr. Snowden said it appears that all the appropriations have been exhausted.

Mr. Bryan asked if the finance committee could state about the amount needed to meet these deficiencies.

Mr. Bryan was not able to say at present.

A communication from the Alexandria Light Infantry asking an appropriation of \$500 in aid of the company, showing that all the cities of the State made such appropriations, was referred.

The clerk read a communication from the Secretary of the Corporation Commission informing the council that its resolution as to the need of additional accommodations on the Alexandria, Washington and Mount Vernon Electric Railway line had been considered and relief ordered. The letter stated that after a careful investigation, it had been found that the service of the electric railway between this city and Washington is totally inadequate, and that during certain hours of the day the number of trains of insufficient. According to the copy of notice attached, the railway company is given until March 12 to put on at least four extra trains from Alexandria to Washington between 6:15 and 8:30 a. m. and a similar number of extra trains from Washington to Alexandria between 4:30 and 6:30 p. m. The clerk was directed to acknowledge receipt of the letter.

A communication of A. W. Early proposing index signs at street corners was received and referred.